



June 10, 2011

Economic Growth Office

Feed the Future Initiative

Bi-weekly Highlights

Accomplishments

- Feed the Future Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop presented by USAID’s Economic Growth Office.
Implementing partners from the six principal USAID Feed the Future (FTF) projects attended a 2-day workshop to learn and discuss best practices for standardizing and streamlining the monitoring and evaluation of FTF projects in accordance with the approved USAID/Senegal FTF Multi-Year Strategy.

- Reducing trade barriers between Senegal and Mali. A Transnational Border Conference was held May 20-21 in Kayes, Mali. The conference was headed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries with the participation of highly ranked public officials, private sector representatives, technical experts from the administration, economic operators involved in the Dakar-Bamako trade, and civil society actors. The conference is the outcome of a year-long participatory process led by USAID/Senegal and USAID/Mali in which the public and private sectors in both countries worked in partnership to identify key constraints to the flow of goods across

borders and formulate sound recommendations. At the conference, the joint delegations fine-tuned recommendations and gained the public support for the governments to pursue the implementation of action plan. Major activities to be implemented along the trade corridor by include reducing the number of control points to three, reducing transit costs, limiting truck weights, improving road maintenance, and setting up a joint Senegal-Mali monitoring committee to oversee the planning and execution of all approved recommendations.

- Seasonal credit applications submitted by maize farmers. In preparation for the upcoming growing season, 356 farm loan applications worth 587 million CFA (\$1.3M) have been finalized and submitted to four financial institutions. These loans are directly linked to a lower lending risk achieved through formal purchasing contracts between farmers and consolidators. These loans made possible through



“We know that countries are more likely to prosper when they encourage entrepreneurship; when they invest in their infrastructure; and when they expand trade and welcome investment.”

- President Barack Obama, Announcement of the new US Development Policy at the UN General Assembly, September 2010

USAID/Economic Growth Project (PCE) capital access activities will ensure timely access to fertilizer and seed inputs.

- Update on Senegal National Competitiveness Report and forum. In a run-up to the imminent National Competitiveness Forum, USAID/Economic Growth Project (PCE) co-sponsored three thematic workshops with representatives of the Tourism, ICT and Textile clusters of the Accelerated Growth Strategy (SCA) to discuss findings and recommendations of the Senegal National Competitiveness Report. Thematic workshop for the Business Environment, Finance and Investment, Export and Infrastructure, and Human Resources clusters are being held June 7-9. The recommendations and priorities will be discussed in detail at the Forum on June 29.
- Peace Corps Food Security Update. Food security staff visited all 23 Master Farmers' sites to assist in preparation for rainy season. At the field crop demo plots several techniques were demonstrated including: thinning millet and sorghum, treatment vs. no treatment of Decis, neem leaf applications, yellow sticky traps for cow pea, conservation farming vs. conventional farming demos for corn, and SRI (system of rice intensification) for rice. Master Farmers continue to see the benefit of involvement in the Peace Corps FTF related program as one farmer recently earned 86,000 CFA (\$185) from selling her dry season onions. In addition, a two-day cow pea extension training was held for 38 people with representatives from 11 women's groups in Kolda to teach germination testing, seed selection, land preparation, seeding, and identification/control of pests.
- USAID partners with PROMISO 2 for regional millet and sorghum intensification. USAID/Wula Nafaa, in partnership with PROMISO 2, a sub-regional project funded by IFAD in Bénin, Burkina, Ghana, Mali, Niger and Senegal are collaborating to intensify millet and sorghum production. Through this project, farmers are about how to increase millet and sorghum production by fighting the Striga hermonthica invasive plant. In addition, the project will introduce new varieties of seed and train farmers on seed selection, implement best agriculture practices, and integrated soil management.
- Small Grants Fund strengthens community fisheries management. USAID/Wula Nafaa supported capacity building in the Casamance region of southern Senegal. Senegalese fisheries' stakeholders and civil society have learned about best fishing practices, and the project is organizing community radio broadcasts to raise awareness and educate the public about the risks associated with overfishing and how to monitor and evaluate the fishing industry in the Goudomp area.

Upcoming Activities

- Agricultural enterprise development workshops to be launched at technical schools in southern Senegal. A team of experts from Tuskegee University, Ntamulyango (Ntam) Baharanyi, Youssouf Diabate, and Henry Findlay, respectively Principal Investigator, Agribusiness Development Specialist, and Education Specialist will visit partner institutions in Ziguinchor to teach a set of workshops focusing on agricultural education and training in the area of enterprise development, micro-credit, and how agricultural value chains work towards economic development. The team will also begin analysis of curriculum among the focus institutions located in the Casamance region: Université de Ziguinchor, Lycée Technique Agricole

Emile Badiane à Bignona and the Centre National de Formation des Techniciens des Eaux, Forets, Chasses et des Parcs Nationaux (CNFTEFCPN).

- USAID/Wula Nafaa will host a farmer-to-farmer volunteer in collaboration with CLUSA. The volunteer, Ms. Pamela Karg, will work with the agriculture team to develop and organize agricultural cooperatives at five horticulture work sites. The activity will help women develop a strategic business plans that ties into their overall mission and will assist in their effort to start cooperatives and better business management.

CAADP Updates

- Nothing to Report

USAID in the News

- “More than 100 tons of Nerica rice produced in Kolda and Sedhiou”
http://www.aps.sn/aps.php?page=articles&id_article=81069
- “Fight Against Poverty: Agriculture and Agro-industry recommended to better organize their value chains” http://www.walf.sn/economique/suite.php?rub=3&id_art=72756

Visitors:

Name/ Organization	Length of stay	Purpose
Dr. Jane Frankenberger, Purdue University	June 19 - 29	Visit with partner institutions in St. Louis (<i>Universite Gaston Berger and Centre National de formation technique de l'elevage et de l'industrie animale</i>) to begin analyzing curriculum and provide a short workshop on geographic information systems and the use of spatial information in applied research and education.
Dr. Michael Bertelsen, Associate Director for OIRE, Virginia Tech	June 6 and 15	Visit the Program Management Unit (PMU), Dakar for an administrative visit and to assist in developing the planning framework for the next fiscal year.